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## NOTICE OF ALLOWANCE AND FEE(S) DUE

7590  
Striker, Striker & Stenby  
103 East Neck Road  
Huntington, NY 11743

08/17/2011

EXAMINER

DEXTER, CLARK F

ART UNIT

PAPER NUMBER

3724

DATE MAILED: 08/17/2011

APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
10/581,011	02/15/2007	Klaus Worgull	3702	6846

TITLE OF INVENTION: CUTTING HEAD FOR AN ELECTRIC HAIR CUTTING MACHINE

APPLN. TYPE	SMALL ENTITY	ISSUE FEE DUE	PUBLICATION FEE DUE	PREV. PAID ISSUE FEE	TOTAL FEE(S) DUE	DATE DUE
nonprovisional	NO	\$1510	\$300	\$0	\$1810	11/17/2011

THE APPLICATION IDENTIFIED ABOVE HAS BEEN EXAMINED AND IS ALLOWED FOR ISSUANCE AS A PATENT. **PROSECUTION ON THE MERITS IS CLOSED.** THIS NOTICE OF ALLOWANCE IS NOT A GRANT OF PATENT RIGHTS. THIS APPLICATION IS SUBJECT TO WITHDRAWAL FROM ISSUE AT THE INITIATIVE OF THE OFFICE OR UPON PETITION BY THE APPLICANT. SEE 37 CFR 1.313 AND MPEP 1308.

THE ISSUE FEE AND PUBLICATION FEE (IF REQUIRED) MUST BE PAID WITHIN **THREE MONTHS FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS NOTICE** OR THIS APPLICATION SHALL BE REGARDED AS ABANDONED. **THIS STATUTORY PERIOD CANNOT BE EXTENDED.** SEE 35 U.S.C. 151. THE ISSUE FEE DUE INDICATED ABOVE DOES NOT REFLECT A CREDIT FOR ANY PREVIOUSLY PAID ISSUE FEE IN THIS APPLICATION. IF AN ISSUE FEE HAS PREVIOUSLY BEEN PAID IN THIS APPLICATION (AS SHOWN ABOVE), THE RETURN OF PART B OF THIS FORM WILL BE CONSIDERED A REQUEST TO REAPPLY THE PREVIOUSLY PAID ISSUE FEE TOWARD THE ISSUE FEE NOW DUE.

## HOW TO REPLY TO THIS NOTICE:

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If the SMALL ENTITY is shown as YES, verify your current SMALL ENTITY status:

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B. If the status above is to be removed, check box 5b on Part B - Fee(s) Transmittal and pay the PUBLICATION FEE (if required) and twice the amount of the ISSUE FEE shown above, or

If the SMALL ENTITY is shown as NO:

A. Pay TOTAL FEE(S) DUE shown above, or

B. If applicant claimed SMALL ENTITY status before, or is now claiming SMALL ENTITY status, check box 5a on Part B - Fee(s) Transmittal and pay the PUBLICATION FEE (if required) and 1/2 the ISSUE FEE shown above.

II. PART B - FEE(S) TRANSMITTAL, or its equivalent, must be completed and returned to the United States Patent and Trademark Office (USPTO) with your ISSUE FEE and PUBLICATION FEE (if required). If you are charging the fee(s) to your deposit account, section "4b" of Part B - Fee(s) Transmittal should be completed and an extra copy of the form should be submitted. If an equivalent of Part B is filed, a request to reapply a previously paid issue fee must be clearly made, and delays in processing may occur due to the difficulty in recognizing the paper as an equivalent of Part B.

III. All communications regarding this application must give the application number. Please direct all communications prior to issuance to Mail Stop ISSUE FEE unless advised to the contrary.

**IMPORTANT REMINDER:** Utility patents issuing on applications filed on or after Dec. 12, 1980 may require payment of maintenance fees. It is patentee's responsibility to ensure timely payment of maintenance fees when due.

# **PART B - FEE(S) TRANSMITTAL**

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**INSTRUCTIONS:** This form should be used for transmitting the **ISSUE FEE** and **PUBLICATION FEE** (if required). Blocks 1 through 5 should be completed where appropriate. All further correspondence including the Patent, advance orders and notification of maintenance fees will be mailed to the current correspondence address as indicated unless corrected below or directed otherwise in Block 1, by (a) specifying a new correspondence address; and/or (b) indicating a separate "FEE ADDRESS" for maintenance fee notifications.

**CURRENT CORRESPONDENCE ADDRESS** (Note: Use Block 1 for any change of address)

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7590 08/17/2011

**Striker, Striker & Stenby**  
103 East Neck Road  
Huntington, NY 11743

## **Certificate of Mailing or Transmission**

I hereby certify that this Fee(s) Transmittal is being deposited with the United States Postal Service with sufficient postage for first class mail in an envelope addressed to the Mail Stop ISSUE FEE address above, or being facsimile transmitted to the USPTO (571) 273-2885, on the date indicated below.

(Depositor's name)
(Signature)
(Date)

APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
10/581,011	02/15/2007	Klaus Worgull	3702	6846

**TITLE OF INVENTION:** CUTTING HEAD FOR AN ELECTRIC HAIR CUTTING MACHINE

APPLN. TYPE	SMALL ENTITY	ISSUE FEE DUE	PUBLICATION FEE DUE	PREV. PAID ISSUE FEE	TOTAL FEE(S) DUE	DATE DUE
nonprovisional	NO	\$1510	\$300	\$0	\$1810	11/17/2011

EXAMINER	ART UNIT	CLASS-SUBCLASS
DEXTER, CLARK F	3724	030-043700

1. Change of correspondence address or indication of "Fee Address" (37 CFR 1.363).

- ☐ Change of correspondence address (or Change of Correspondence Address form PTO/SB-112) attached;  
☐ "Fee Address" indication (or "Fee Address" Indication form PTO/SB-117, Rev. 03-02 or more recent) attached. Use of a **Customer Number is required.**

2. For printing on the patent front page, list

- (1) the names of up to 3 registered patent attorneys or agents OR, alternatively, \_\_\_\_\_ 1  
 (2) the name of a single firm (having as a member a registered attorney or agent) and the names of up to 2 registered patent attorneys or agents. If no name is listed, no name will be printed. \_\_\_\_\_ 2  
 \_\_\_\_\_ 3

3. ASSIGNEE NAME AND RESIDENCE DATA TO BE PRINTED ON THE PATENT (print or type)

**PLEASE NOTE:** Unless an assignee is identified below, no assignee data will appear on the patent. If an assignee is identified below, the document has been filed for recordation as set forth in 37 CFR 3.111. Completion of this form is NOT a substitute for filing an assignment.

(A) NAME OF ASSIGNEE

(B) RESIDENCE: (CITY and STATE OR COUNTRY)

Please check the appropriate assignee category or categories (will not be printed on the patent): ☐ Individual ☐ Corporation or other private group entity ☐ Government

4a. The following fee(s) are submitted:

- ☐ Issue Fee  
☐ Publication Fee (No small entity discount permitted)  
☐ Advance Order - # of Copies \_\_\_\_\_

4b. Payment of Fee(s): (Please first reuply any previously paid issue fee shown above)

- ☐ A check is enclosed.  
☐ Payment by credit card. Form PTO-2038 is attached.  
☐ The Director is hereby authorized to charge the required fee(s), any deficiency, or credit any overpayment, to Deposit Account Number \_\_\_\_\_ (enclose an extra copy of this form).

5. **Change in Entity Status** (from status indicated above)

- ☐ a. Applicant claims **SMALL ENTITY** status. See 37 CFR 1.27. ☐ b. Applicant is no longer claiming **SMALL ENTITY** status. See 37 CFR 1.27(g)(2).

**NOTE:** The Issue Fee and Publication Fee (if required) will not be accepted from anyone other than the applicant; a registered attorney or agent; or the assignee or other party in interest as shown by the records of the United States Patent and Trademark Office.

Authorized Signature \_\_\_\_\_ Date \_\_\_\_\_

Typed or printed name \_\_\_\_\_ Registration No. \_\_\_\_\_

This collection of information is required by 37 CFR 1.311. The information is required to obtain or retain a benefit by the public which is to file (and by the USPTO to process) an application. Confidentiality is governed by 35 U.S.C. 122 and 37 CFR 1.14. This collection is estimated to take 12 minutes to complete, including gathering, preparing, and submitting the completed application form to the USPTO. Time will vary depending upon the individual case. Any comments on the amount of time you require to complete this form and/or suggestions for reducing this burden, should be sent to the Chief Information Officer, U.S. Patent and Trademark Office, U.S. Department of Commerce, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, Virginia 22313-1450. **DO NOT SEND FEES OR COMPLETED FORMS TO THIS ADDRESS. SEND TO: Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, Virginia 22313-1450.**

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## Determination of Patent Term Adjustment under 35 U.S.C. 154 (b) (application filed on or after May 29, 2000)

The Patent Term Adjustment to date is 165 day(s). If the issue fee is paid on the date that is three months after the mailing date of this notice and the patent issues on the Tuesday before the date that is 28 weeks (six and a half months) after the mailing date of this notice, the Patent Term Adjustment will be 165 day(s).

If a Continued Prosecution Application (CPA) was filed in the above-identified application, the filing date that determines Patent Term Adjustment is the filing date of the most recent CPA.

Applicant will be able to obtain more detailed information by accessing the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) WEB site (<http://pair.uspto.gov>).

Any questions regarding the Patent Term Extension or Adjustment determination should be directed to the Office of Patent Legal Administration at (571)-272-7702. Questions relating to issue and publication fee payments should be directed to the Customer Service Center of the Office of Patent Publication at 1-(888)-786-0101 or (571)-272-4200.

## Privacy Act Statement

The Privacy Act of 1974 (P.L. 93-579) requires that you be given certain information in connection with your submission of the attached form related to a patent application or patent. Accordingly, pursuant to the requirements of the Act, please be advised that: (1) the general authority for the collection of this information is 35 U.S.C. 2(b)(2); (2) furnishing of the information solicited is voluntary; and (3) the principal purpose for which the information is used by the U.S. Patent and Trademark Office is to process and/or examine your submission related to a patent application or patent. If you do not furnish the requested information, the U.S. Patent and Trademark Office may not be able to process and/or examine your submission, which may result in termination of proceedings or abandonment of the application or expiration of the patent.

The information provided by you in this form will be subject to the following routine uses:

1. The information on this form will be treated confidentially to the extent allowed under the Freedom of Information Act (5 U.S.C. 552) and the Privacy Act (5 U.S.C. 552a). Records from this system of records may be disclosed to the Department of Justice to determine whether disclosure of these records is required by the Freedom of Information Act.
2. A record from this system of records may be disclosed, as a routine use, in the course of presenting evidence to a court, magistrate, or administrative tribunal, including disclosures to opposing counsel in the course of settlement negotiations.
3. A record in this system of records may be disclosed, as a routine use, to a Member of Congress submitting a request involving an individual, to whom the record pertains, when the individual has requested assistance from the Member with respect to the subject matter of the record.
4. A record in this system of records may be disclosed, as a routine use, to a contractor of the Agency having need for the information in order to perform a contract. Recipients of information shall be required to comply with the requirements of the Privacy Act of 1974, as amended, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 552a(m).
5. A record related to an International Application filed under the Patent Cooperation Treaty in this system of records may be disclosed, as a routine use, to the International Bureau of the World Intellectual Property Organization, pursuant to the Patent Cooperation Treaty.
6. A record in this system of records may be disclosed, as a routine use, to another federal agency for purposes of National Security review (35 U.S.C. 181) and for review pursuant to the Atomic Energy Act (42 U.S.C. 218(c)).
7. A record from this system of records may be disclosed, as a routine use, to the Administrator, General Services, or his/her designee, during an inspection of records conducted by GSA as part of that agency's responsibility to recommend improvements in records management practices and programs, under authority of 44 U.S.C. 2904 and 2906. Such disclosure shall be made in accordance with the GSA regulations governing inspection of records for this purpose, and any other relevant (i.e., GSA or Commerce) directive. Such disclosure shall not be used to make determinations about individuals.
8. A record from this system of records may be disclosed, as a routine use, to the public after either publication of the application pursuant to 35 U.S.C. 122(b) or issuance of a patent pursuant to 35 U.S.C. 151. Further, a record may be disclosed, subject to the limitations of 37 CFR 1.14, as a routine use, to the public if the record was filed in an application which became abandoned or in which the proceedings were terminated and which application is referenced by either a published application, an application open to public inspection or an issued patent.
9. A record from this system of records may be disclosed, as a routine use, to a Federal, State, or local law enforcement agency, if the USPTO becomes aware of a violation or potential violation of law or regulation.

**Notice of Allowability****Application No.**

10/581,011

**Examiner**

CLARK F. DEXTER

**Applicant(s)**

WORGULL, KLAUS

**Art Unit**

3724

**-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address--**

All claims being allowable, PROSECUTION ON THE MERITS IS (OR REMAINS) CLOSED in this application. If not included herewith (or previously mailed), a Notice of Allowance (PTOL-85) or other appropriate communication will be mailed in due course. **THIS NOTICE OF ALLOWABILITY IS NOT A GRANT OF PATENT RIGHTS.** This application is subject to withdrawal from issue at the initiative of the Office or upon petition by the applicant. See 37 CFR 1.313 and MPEP 1308.

1. ☒ This communication is responsive to the response filed on May 23, 2011.
2. ☒ The allowed claim(s) is/are 1,2,4,7 and 9-12.
3. ☒ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
- a) ☒ All b) ☐ Some\* c) ☐ None of the:
1. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. \_\_\_\_.
3. ☒ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this national stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

\* Certified copies not received: \_\_\_\_.

Applicant has THREE MONTHS FROM THE "MAILING DATE" of this communication to file a reply complying with the requirements noted below. Failure to timely comply will result in ABANDONMENT of this application.  
**THIS THREE-MONTH PERIOD IS NOT EXTENDABLE.**

4. ☐ A SUBSTITUTE OATH OR DECLARATION must be submitted. Note the attached EXAMINER'S AMENDMENT or NOTICE OF INFORMAL PATENT APPLICATION (PTO-152) which gives reason(s) why the oath or declaration is deficient.
5. ☐ CORRECTED DRAWINGS (as "replacement sheets") must be submitted.
- (a) ☐ including changes required by the Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948) attached
- 1) ☐ hereto or 2) ☐ to Paper No./Mail Date \_\_\_\_.
- (b) ☐ including changes required by the attached Examiner's Amendment / Comment or in the Office action of Paper No./Mail Date \_\_\_\_.
- Identifying indicia such as the application number (see 37 CFR 1.84(c)) should be written on the drawings in the front (not the back) of each sheet. Replacement sheet(s) should be labeled as such in the header according to 37 CFR 1.121(d).
6. ☐ DEPOSIT OF and/or INFORMATION about the deposit of BIOLOGICAL MATERIAL must be submitted. Note the attached Examiner's comment regarding REQUIREMENT FOR THE DEPOSIT OF BIOLOGICAL MATERIAL.

**Attachment(s)**

1. ☒ Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)
2. ☐ Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)
3. ☐ Information Disclosure Statements (PTO/SB/08),  
Paper No./Mail Date \_\_\_\_
4. ☐ Examiner's Comment Regarding Requirement for Deposit of Biological Material
5. ☐ Notice of Informal Patent Application
6. ☐ Interview Summary (PTO-413),  
Paper No./Mail Date \_\_\_\_
7. ☒ Examiner's Amendment/Comment
8. ☐ Examiner's Statement of Reasons for Allowance
9. ☐ Other \_\_\_\_.

### EXAMINER'S AMENDMENT

1. An extension of time under 37 CFR 1.136(a) is required in order to make an examiner's amendment which places this application in condition for allowance. During a telephone conversation conducted on August 11, 2011, Mr. William Valance requested an extension of time for 3 MONTH(S) and authorized the Director to charge **Deposit Account No. 194675** the required fee of \$1,110.00 for this extension and authorized the following examiner's amendment. Should the changes and/or additions be unacceptable to applicant, an amendment may be filed as provided by 37 CFR 1.312. To ensure consideration of such an amendment, it MUST be submitted no later than the payment of the issue fee.
2. The application has been amended as follows:

#### In the Claims

Claim 8 has been canceled.

Claim 1 has been rewritten as follows:

--1. (currently amended) A cutting head (1) for an electric hair cutting machine (4), comprising:

one lower shearing blade (2) and one upper shearing blade (3) fixedly joined to one another, wherein each of said lower shearing blade and said upper shearing blade includes a shearing serration;

a slit disposed between said lower shearing blade (2) and said upper shearing blade (3) wherein the shearing serration of the lower shearing blade is separated from the shearing serration of the upper shearing blade;

a cutting blade (5) comprising cutting teeth (6) and made from a flat material (7) having a substantially constant thickness (S) between opposite blade surfaces, the cutting blade ~~[[and]]~~ configured to be driven ~~[[drive]]~~ in oscillation in opposite cutting directions ~~an oscillating direction~~ that are substantially parallel to said blade surfaces, wherein said slit forms ~~is configured to form~~ a guide that receives the cutting blade (5), wherein the cutting blade (5) is disposed between the lower and upper shearing blades ~~and~~ is configured to oscillate relative to ~~between~~ the lower and upper shearing blades (2, 3), wherein said cutting teeth correspond to said shearing serrations on said lower shearing blade and said upper shearing blade and cooperate with said shearing serrations to cut hair, and wherein the thickness (S) of the cutting blade (5) is flat and ~~has a thickness (S) of~~ approximately 0.1 to 1.0 mm; and

a hair length cut adjuster (9) configured to adjust the relative positions of the blades by moving ~~such that~~ the lower shearing blade (2) and the upper shearing blade (3) ~~are adjustable~~ relative to the cutting blade (5), wherein ~~whereby~~ the lower shearing blade (2) ~~[[20]]~~ and the upper shearing blade (3) are adjustable ~~adapted to move~~ relative to the cutting blade (5) in a direction that is substantially parallel to said blade surfaces and perpendicular to the cutting directions ~~oscillating direction~~...

Claim 7 has been rewritten as follows:

--7. (currently amended) The cutting head as defined by claim 1, wherein the cutting head (1) is configured to cooperate with a lubricant reservoir (8) ~~is associated with the cutting head (1).~~--.

Claim 12 has been rewritten as follows:

--12. (currently amended) The cutting head as defined by claim 1, wherein the cutting blade (5) is configured to be driven without a pressure perpendicular to said blade surfaces ~~a plane of the blade~~ when the blade is moved.--.

In the Specification

Page 1, line 11, "means of" has been deleted.

The paragraph beginning on line 1 of page 2 has been rewritten as follows:

-- ~~This object is attained by the characteristics of the body of claim 1.~~ Further advantageous refinements and features of the invention are disclosed in the dependent claims.--.

The paragraph beginning on line 24 of page 2 has been rewritten as follows:

-- Fig. 4, a top view taken along the line IV-IV in Fig. 1, but without the cutting blade and slaving device, and without a hair cutting length adjuster; --.



The first two paragraphs beginning on line 1 of page 3 have been rewritten as follows:

-- Fig. 7, a side view of the cutting blade with the ~~[[a]]~~ slaving device;

Fig. 8, a plan view VIII-VIII of ~~[[on]]~~ the cutting blade and slaving device of

Fig. 7; --.

Page 3, line 28, "7.1" has been deleted.

Page 4, line 6, "oil" has been changed to --energy--.

The second paragraph beginning on line 12 of page 4 has been rewritten as follows:

-- The cutting head 1 is selectively provided with an integrated hair cutting length adjuster 9, making the shearing blades 2, 3 ~~cutting blade 5~~ capable of being displaced manually relative to the cutting blade 5, which is disposed in the slit 31, in the direction of the arrow (arrow 32) via a lever 33. This hair cutting length adjuster 9 is in principle known from the aforementioned EPO856386B1, particularly from Figs. 1 through 5 thereof along with the corresponding description, but instead of the lower shearing blade, in this case the two shearing blades 2, 3 solidly joined to one another are displaceable/adjustable relative to the cutting blade 5. The cutting head 1 ~~[[5]]~~ is embodied as a structural unit 34 and is embodied as lockable to the hair cutting machine 4 (Fig. 2).--.

The paragraph bridging pages 4-5 has been rewritten as follows:

-- To prevent soiling in an interstice 10 adjacent [[of]] the drive motor 11 and in the cutting head 1, the cutting head 1 can be constructed as fully encapsulated. Moreover, the interstice 10 can be utilized for a lubricant reservoir 8, thus maximally dispensing with manual refilling.--.

Page 5, line 5, "apart for" has been changed to --apart from--.

The paragraph beginning on line 9 of page 5 has been rewritten as follows:

-- Fig. 3 shows the cutting head 1 along the section line III-III in Fig. 1, showing a section through the lower shearing blade 2, upper shearing blade 3, and cutting blade 5. The cutting blade 5 that oscillates back and forth is located between the fixed lower shearing blade 2 and the fixed upper shearing blade 3 and is shown here with its cutting serration 6 in the direction of the arrow (arrow 35) just before cutting a plurality of hairs 18 (shown here only symbolically). The lower shearing blade 2 and the upper shearing blade 3 are provided in a line with an identical, diametrically opposed shearing blade serration 19 at equal spacings and having tooth gaps 20 of equal widths, and the cutting serration 6 of the cutting blade 5 is located at lesser spacings, so that the hair 18 will be cut not simultaneously but in staggered fashion. In practice, a serration ratio of 1.5 (shearing blade serration 19) to 1.3 (cutting serration 6) has proven itself. To prevent the creation of a burr (as would be the case in stamping) in the manufacture of the cutting serration 6, the cutting serration is produced by erosion.--.

The paragraph beginning on line 24 of page 5 has been rewritten as follows:

-- Fig. 4 shows a top view IV-IV on the cutting head 1 of Fig. 1, but without the cutting blade 5, the slaving device, and the hair cutting length adjuster 9.--.

Page 6, line 4, "a slaving" has been changed to --the slaving--.

The paragraph beginning on line 9 of page 7 has been rewritten as follows:

-- Fig. 13 - in comparison to Fig. 2 - in a sectional side view shows a cutting head 1.1 of the prior art, which is joined to the housing 17 of a hair cutting machine 4.1 [[4]]. It also becomes clear here that a structurally required gap 21 (because of the oscillating upper shearing blade) between the cutting head 1.1 and the housing 17 brings about soiling from fine hair particles in the interstice 10, which is prevented in the exemplary embodiment of Fig. 2.--.

#### In the Drawings

3. The following changes to the drawings have been approved by the examiner and agreed upon by applicant:

In Figure 1, numerals 13 and 50 along with their lead lines will be deleted.

In order to avoid abandonment of the application, applicant must make these above agreed upon drawing changes.

Additional Prior Art

4. The prior art made of record and not relied upon is considered pertinent to applicant's disclosure. However, none of the prior art of record, either taken alone or in combination, teaches or fairly suggests the claimed invention.

Remarks

5. The above changes to the claims were made for further clarity and to more clearly distinguish the claimed invention with respect to the prior art. For example, the last paragraph has been amended with insertions such as the following:

*"a hair length cut adjuster (9) configured to adjust the relative positions of the blades by moving the lower shearing blade (2) and the upper shearing blade (3) relative to the cutting blade ..."*

to clarify that the hair length cut adjuster is configured to actively cause movement of the lower and upper shearing blades relative to the cutting blade. Further, claim 8 has been canceled since it was directed to features of the hair cutting machine which is not part of the claimed invention.

The above changes to the specification have been made and the changes to the drawing agreed upon to correct informalities and for further clarity.

6. Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to CLARK F. DEXTER whose telephone number is (571)272-4505. The examiner can normally be reached on Monday, Tuesday, Thursday and Friday.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Boyer D. Ashley can be reached on 571-272-4502. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 571-273-8300.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free). If you would like assistance from a USPTO Customer Service Representative or access to the automated information system, call 800-786-9199 (IN USA OR CANADA) or 571-272-1000.

**/CLARK F DEXTER/  
Primary Examiner, Art Unit 3724**

cfd  
August 12, 2011